

CHURCH AND STATE

A MONTHLY REVIEW



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JUNE 1959

Dale Francis Appeals to POAU

Dale Francis, editor of the *Lone Star Catholic*, has appealed to POAU for aid in connection with what he charges is a violation of church-state separation by the Baptists at Sharps-town, near Houston, Texas. Mr. Francis charges (Feb. 22 issue) that the Baptists have a "profit-making housing development" and that the city of Houston is to pay for water lines to it.

Francis' article is extremely truculent in tone—"It doesn't pay to antagonize the guys who buy the oats," etc. This truculence springs from the fact that POAU has frequently exposed the inaccuracies of this inaccurate Catholic Actionist. For example, Francis used to advertise himself as a "former Protestant minister" until POAU exposed him and he had to acknowledge publicly: "I was never an ordained Protestant minister."

As has so frequently been true in the past, the trouble, again, is with the unreliability of Mr. Francis's information. Upon investigation we find that the housing development is not one of 190 acres, as Mr. Francis claims, but one of 4000 acres. It is not being promoted by the Baptists, as Mr. Francis claims, but by a man named Sharp, after whom the Sharps-town development has been named.

Subsidized by Whom?

Mr. Sharp has arranged for the Baptists to buy some land within his development and no doubt at a favorable price. This does indeed constitute an indirect subsidy to the college the Baptists proposed to build there. But the subsidy is by a private individual, not by the city of Houston. Private aid to churches and church associations is not forbidden but encouraged by our laws.

Extension of water lines into the

Vatican Dictates New Voting Orders

In the most sweeping and specific order ever issued to the faithful on the casting of their ballots in political elections, Pope John XXIII has commanded Roman Catholics throughout the world not to vote for candidates or parties which are Communist, or which might incline to "favor the Communists by their action."



PAN AMERICAN UNION PHOTO

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT FRONDIZI

His is one of several countries whose constitutions bar Protestants as chief of state. See Page 4.

area is not for the private benefit of the Baptists, as Mr. Francis tries to make it appear. Such extension will benefit Mr. Sharp's entire 4000-acre development and all its inhabitants.

As for the Baptist college site, which is also located in the Sharps-town development, Mr. Francis admits that the church representatives have agreed to pay the entire expense of these lines. He lacked the grace, also, to acknowledge that the church association voluntarily excused the city from this obligation. Church leaders assumed the obligation because of their devotion to church-state separation.

Next time, boy, get at least some of your facts straight.

The Pope made it clear that the order applied not only to Communist candidates as such, but to any candidates the church might identify as friendly to Communism, or inclined to cooperate with Communist causes. Indeed, the immediate objective of the order was a confusing situation in Sicily where a group of Christian Democrats (the church's own party) had formed a coalition government with the Communists. The Pope had apparently reserved to himself the right to decide which Christian Democrats were really Christian.

Universal Law

Despite the problem in Italy, the universal nature of the directive was underscored. It applies not only in Italy, or in Poland, or in Europe, but in the United States and the rest of the world as well. Observers recalled the familiar strategy of Catholic Action in Latin America which has always sought to link Protestants and Communists. The terms of the new order were, in fact, so vague that it could be invoked in regard to practically any candidate in practically any election.

Similar voting orders have been issued by the Vatican—notably in 1949 when the Pope threatened to excommunicate anyone who voted the Communist ticket. But the new order was in the form of a decree from the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office of which the Pope is head.

In one of his first utterances as Pope, John XXIII urged Catholics to take an active interest in politics and added that "it is the right and duty"

(Continued on page 4)

• Editorials •

From An Unusual Source

We do not as a rule draw our editorials from Roman Catholic publications, but this one is too good to miss. It is taken from the *Indiana Catholic and Record*, a journal that has often demonstrated a mind of its own. We approve 100% the portion quoted below. Perhaps the editorial bears down a little too hard on Congressman Anfuso, though. After all, the man is only trying to pick up a few votes.

We quote from the editorial:

"Life would be much less complicated and dissension in the Christian camp would be considerably reduced, if a noisy congressman from New York would stop agitating down there in Washington for an ambassador to the Vatican.

"With the noblest of intentions, no doubt, Rep. Victor L. Anfuso introduced in this Congress, as he did in the last, a resolution calling for American diplomatic recognition at the Vatican.

"There are more important things for you (Rep. Anfuso) to be doing these days than stirring up ill will between Protestants and Catholics—things like making certain that the President gets enough money to carry out his foreign aid program. That will please Pope John more than your attempts to get official recognition for him from the U.S. Government."

Church Censorship Attacked

A lawsuit recently filed in Chicago has far-reaching significance for the churches. The suit, brought by Mrs. Helen MacGill Hughes of the University of Chicago, charges that the Chicago Postmaster withheld two magazines mailed to her from Czechoslovakia. The suit asks immediate delivery of the items and \$1000 in damages. It was explained that the claim for damages against the Chicago Postmaster as an individual would make it difficult for the Government to render the case "moot" as it has done in previous suits by simply delivering the items.

One of the principal topics of conversation at the 1959 sessions of the Associated Church Press, and object

of an official resolution, was the censorship tactics of postal and customs officials. The current practice is to send the addressee a form he is required to fill out. He must state that the items are "not for dissemination" and that he had "ordered, subscribed to or desired" them.

Church groups have apparently been principal victims of this censorship program with customs and postal authorities virtually telling them what items from abroad they may and may not read. Two years ago the Society of Friends vigorously protested repeated confiscations of study materials sent from abroad. The practice continues. It involves a grave violation by the Government of the principle of separation of church and state.

It is to be hoped that Mrs. Hughes' suit will succeed in terminating this censorship program.

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The Man Out Front

When there is public criticism of POAU it is not always the man out front who is responsible. He may be no more than a willing dupe.

Because of its opposition to church subsidies which the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church now insist upon, POAU has frequently drawn the fire of this group.

The astuteness of Catholic strategy is disclosed in its penchant for persuading a Protestant or a Jew to attack POAU. Then Catholic Action seizes the item with glee and gloating and keeps it going in both the secular press and its own press for months thereafter.

Catholic Action seeks to induce councils on human relations to charge POAU with being a "disruptive influence." It slips up on an unwary Council of Churches official and traps him into an off-the-cuff remark about POAU. For years priests in the upper echelon of the National Conference of Christians and Jews have tried to get that body to blast POAU in the interests of "brotherhood."

Protestants who assault POAU never lack for Catholic flattery. Will Herberg, a Jew on the faculty of a Protestant seminary, has served as the willing voice for Roman Catholic subsidy demands for years.

The moral: let us be wary in well doing.

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"Power Structure"

Dr. Norman St. John-Stevas, Roman Catholic convert, at seminar sponsored by Fund for the Republic, New York City, May 9, 1958:

"The Catholic problem is an existential problem; it exists in the people's mind. This conference gives to American Catholics a solemn warning that whoever is responsible, the image of the Catholic Church which has been created in the American mind is not an image of the Church of Christ. It is largely an image of a power structure. . . . A part of this responsibility, a heavy part, rests with Catholics themselves."

New Policy

Since May 1, the National office of POAU has suspended the general writing of receipts for individual contributions.

The time and money absorbed by this frequently unnecessary process will be better spent on our program of legal action. Most contributions now come to us as checks or money orders, which are self-receipting.

However, careful records are kept and we will cheerfully provide you with a statement of your giving at any time. Or give you a receipt if you request it.

This is part of our program to keep POAU in fighting trim.

Church and State

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CHURCH AND STATE

NEWS From Far and Near

◆ An article in April *Sentinel* quotes a study by A. Neil Miller showing that Quebec taxpayers claim more deductions for donations than all taxpayers in all other provinces of Canada combined. He questions whether Quebec taxpayers actually make the donations they report and also asks: "Are taxpayers in the rest of Canada . . . paying an involuntary subsidy (1) to Roman Catholicism in Quebec or (2) to the Province of Quebec?"

◆ The National Association of Evangelicals in annual convention in Los Angeles called on the U. S. Government to terminate aid programs to Colombia and Spain until "persecution of the evangelical minorities in these countries is corrected."

◆ Deep concern was being expressed in liberal circles in France regarding the tentative May visit of President Charles de Gaulle to the Pope. Pope John XXIII is said to be "hopeful" for a new concordat with the French government. The last one was repudiated by the French government in 1905.

◆ A recent meeting of the Evangelical Council of Spain took cognizance of the continuing problem created by the refusal of authorities to permit the marriage of former Roman Catholics who cannot "satisfactorily prove" that they have become Protestants. It was stated that a number of such cases are now before the courts. Two more Protestant churches in Barcelona were reported closed by police action but another, long closed, had been permitted to reopen.

◆ According to the *Nashville Tennessean* Roman Catholic Nuns of the area, in considerable numbers will register and vote in the 1959 and 1960 elections for the first time since Al Smith, a Catholic, ran for President in 1928. The *Tennessean* said: "One of the reasons for the aroused interest among the nuns, reportedly on a nationwide basis, was said to be the potential candidacy of Senator John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.). . . ."

◆ In an address delivered to the National Association of Methodist Hospitals and Homes in St. Louis, Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke, the organization's vice-president, challenged the Methodist Church to "pick up the tab" for its own hospital program. The Bishop made no specific reference to recent acquisition by the Methodists of government-owned hospitals in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Richland, Wash.

◆ A policy of careful vigilance obtained between the Roman Catholic Church (largest single denomination) in Cuba, and the Castro regime. Castro's refusal to have Roman Catholic dogma taught in public schools and the cancellation of accreditation of a Catholic university, St. Thomas of Villanova, were regarded as "unfriendly" by the church. Dale Francis, a paid Catholic propagandist, who had written in high praise of the revolution, suddenly reversed his field and began to denounce Castro as Communist.

◆ Reports in Berlin indicate that the East German Minister of Justice is readying a bill which would make it a crime to dissuade young people from participating in the Communist-sponsored youth dedication ceremonies.

◆ A court in Caltanissetta, Sicily, has ruled that a Protestant pastor authorized by Italian law to officiate at non-Catholic marriages may perform such ceremonies not only in his own district but in any part of the country. Protestants hailed the decision, if it could be sustained in higher courts, as a real gain for religious freedom.

◆ Spanish Ambassador Jose M. de Areilza has charged that the alleged "persecution" of Protestants in Spain is "an example of distorted, untruthful reporting by a few American publications." He said that Spaniards are 95 percent Catholic and "we simply don't want to make Spain a mission field for proselytizing non-Catholics (Protestants)."

◆ Donato Crotarolo, 80 years old, an Italian Baptist, was sentenced to 15 days in jail in Avezzano, Italy for posting placards which, it was alleged, contained statements hostile to the Roman Catholic religion.

Would Void Contract Tying City and Church

A suit which seeks to void a long-term affiliation between Seton Hall Medical College (Roman Catholic) and the city council of Jersey City for operation of the city's multi-million dollar medical center by the College, has been filed in Superior Court. Plaintiff is a group known as the Jersey City Association for Separation of Church and State.

In support of its motion for summary judgment voiding the agreement, the Association points out that the defendants conspired to defeat a referendum for non-sectarian operation of a State medical school, then quickly moved to get control of the Jersey City facilities for themselves. The plaintiff's brief states that the Roman Catholic Church in 1954 spent \$10,000 in advertising and used a state-wide pulpit appeal on the part of all its priests to beat the referendum.

Support Priests

The plaintiff declares that Seton Hall's operation of the school already indicates mounting deficits which the city must subsidize. The city fathers last year cut the school children a half million while picking up the tab for increased deficits for the medical school. The 50-year contract between the city and the Catholic school can cost taxpayers up to \$700,000 a year in the way of guarantees to cover operating deficits. One reason for the expanding costs was the presence on the Jersey City payroll of two Roman Catholic clergymen who were being paid to hold Mass and render other religious services in the Catholic chapel of the medical center.

"Even if benefits had been furnished to all religious groups on an equal basis, there would still be an unconstitutional establishment of religion. . . . But this is a discriminatory and illegal preference of one religious group over the others, in patent violation of the provisions of the United States and New Jersey Constitutions," the brief asserts.

THANKS AGAIN

Your tremendous response in sending us names of prospective members was something to be thankful for—even if it did overload our staff awhile.

Introductory mailings to 30,000 such prospects were recently made.

Voting Orders

(Continued from page 1)

of the church to give them moral guidance in such endeavors. The current decree is the first set of specifics in the promised guidance.

New Penalties

An interesting feature of the new "how to vote" law is the penalties provided for violations. The 1949 order was so widely violated by the Italian people that to invoke the promised penalty of excommunication would have meant the decimation of the church's membership. (The Italians probably number the highest percentage of Communists of any nation in Europe).

The new decree has, therefore, sought to provide milder penalties which it is hoped will prove more effective and more realistic in the circumstances. Those who refuse to be guided in their voting by the Pope's definition of Communist inclination among the candidates, will be denied the sacraments of the church. They will not suffer excommunication, the church's most severe penalty.

Protests from political leaders were prompt and vehement. Pietro Nenni, leader of the Socialist party, urged the Italian government to denounce what he called "interference" in the elections. He said that the voting orders violated the concordat between Italy and the Holy See.

In Yugoslavia, *Borba*, a newspaper closely associated with the government, charged that the Pope is "continuing the old Vatican policy of direct interference in the internal affairs of countries in which Catholics live."

In an interesting aftermath of the voting order a statement published in *Osservatore della Domenica*, a Vatican weekly, declared that the order applied "only to free elections." Presumably this meant elections like those held in the United States and other free countries where "there is a free choice of these representatives."

Can Catholicism Win America?

by Harold Fey

Editor, *Christian Century*

(Delivered at 11th National Conference of POAU)

5c each, 12 for 50c,
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POAU

1633 Massachusetts
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Protestants Barred From Presidency

Protestants are barred from running for the presidency or serving in this office in a number of countries where Catholic Action has succeeded in placing such prohibitions in the constitution or in a concordat with the Vatican. This interesting disclosure was revealed in a study recently made by POAU. The study was prompted by Catholic complaints that in the U.S., Protestants had imposed such a ban, in reverse, on Catholic candidates.

Protestants, and Jews as well, are barred in some countries by the simple expedient of requiring that the president or chief of state must be a Roman Catholic. Companion provisions in these constitutions also provide that the official religion of the country shall be Roman Catholicism.

For Catholics Only

The Constitution of Argentina provides: "To be eligible to the office of President or Vice President of the Nation, a person . . . must belong to the Catholic Church. . . ." In Paraguay, "The President of the Republic must . . . profess the Roman Catholic Religion. . . ."

The Constitution of Spain says that "to exercise the office of Chief of State as king or regent, it shall be necessary . . . to profess the Catholic religion. . . ." Article 1 of the Constitution of the Vatican begins: "The Sovereign Pontiff, sovereign of the City of the Vatican, has full Legislative, Executive and Judicial powers. . . ." While it is not specifically provided that the person named to these dictatorial powers shall be a Catholic, it is reasonable to assume that the post would be denied to a Baptist or Methodist or person of a faith other than the Roman Catholic.

There are other countries where Roman Catholicism is declared to be the official religion of the State. It is practically a foregone conclusion that the rulers will be of Roman Catholic faith even though the personal religion of the office holder is not specified. This is true of most Latin American countries, also Italy, Ireland, Monaco, Liechtenstein and Portugal.

Other Religious Limitations

A number of other nations provide in their constitutions for the separa-

tion of church and state (provisions modeled after those in the U. S. Constitution) but perhaps because there is a Roman Catholic majority, they tend in practice to have as chiefs of state, members of this church. So Germany since 1933. France at present has a chief executive of Catholic faith despite strong anticlerical convictions among the populace. This is true in Belgium where both King and Prime Minister are Catholic.

The laws of one country specifically bar a Roman Catholic as such from serving as chief of state. This country is England where the law is that a Roman Catholic shall not "possess or enjoy the crown and government of this realm. . . ."

The United Kingdom also provides that the sovereign must be a Protestant, a member of the Church of England. Other countries requiring that the ruler be Protestant are Denmark and Norway.

The requirement in Greece is that the ruler shall be of the Greek Orthodox faith.

Non-Christian Lands

The constitutions of Afghanistan, Iran, Jordan, Libya and Syria require that the head of the government be Moslem. In Laos and Thailand he must be Buddhist.

Contrary to these religious limitations which prevail so widely, the U. S. has no religious test for any public office. Indeed, the Sixth Article of the Constitution specifically forbids any such test. This means that any person of any faith—Protestant, Catholic, Jew, Buddhist, Hindu, Moslem or Zoroastrian, or of no religious faith—may run for any office, including the Presidency, and may serve if elected.

In practice, however, members of certain faiths do tend to predominate in certain political offices in the U. S. The President has always been a Protestant when he professed a religious faith. The mayors of large municipalities like Chicago and New York have been Catholic for many years. Likewise the Democratic national chairman.

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CHURCH AND STATE

The Law in Action

The Knights of Columbus, cited as "a great moral force" by a number of state legislatures last year, has lost its two year fight for a liquor license in an establishment across the street from the Presbyterian Church of Livingston, N.J. The Presbyterians appealed the case to the Supreme Court of New Jersey which unanimously found in their favor and overruled the grant of the license.

The Kinney Drug store, Newark, N.J., has appealed a conviction for possession of contraceptives under a century-old obscenity law. The Episcopal Diocese of Newark and the Essex County Planned Parenthood group have intervened on the side of the store; the New Jersey Roman Catholic Conference has intervened on the other side. The New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association had also moved to intervene but was intimidated by a threatening editorial in the Trenton Catholic newspaper.

A special committee recommends to the Florida Education Dept. that religion be taught in the public schools but not as a separate subject. The report calls for emphasis on religion, instead of avoidance, when it appears in connection with other subjects.

Among the recent payroll exposures in Congress was the payment of \$7250 a year by House Majority Leader John W. McCormack to Joseph F. Feeney, as a "legislative clerk." Feeney has visited Washington only twice this year, being busy at home in Boston where he practices law and also draws a salary as a judge. He also got some small sums from Bernard Goldfine as "remembrances." McCormack, the Hierarchy's most effective representative on the Hill, was not abashed, said, "I make no apology whatever."

Repeal of a 1912 law which authorized acquisition of land in Plymouth, Mass., part of which was sold for \$100 to a Baptist Church, has been urged upon Congress. The act had been challenged on the basis that the government could exercise eminent domain only for a public purpose. (In 1958 the government sold a large tract in Manhattan acquired by

eminent domain to the Roman Catholic Church for \$2,241,610. The act was sustained by the courts).

Parishioners of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Pittsburgh, are appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court an agreement approved by their Bishop whereby their church would be demolished in a slum clearance project. At issue is constitutionality of a Pennsylvania state law declaring that no member of a church has any property right as a result of church membership.

Two bills in the New Jersey legislature would grant to religious, charitable, educational and hospital groups immunity from liability in negligence cases brought by beneficiaries of these institutions.

Another "special case" bill, S.1527, designed to circumvent the immigration laws, has been introduced by Senator John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.), to grant permanent residence to eight Spanish nuns of the Most Holy Redeemer who want to establish the work of their order in the U.S.

Exemption of all religious organizations from paying fees for automobile

licenses is provided for in a bill in the Pennsylvania legislature. Churches are already exempted from such fees.

Two bills extending bus service for parochial school pupils were defeated in the Maryland State Legislature. The Bedford (Ohio) School Board rejected demands for bus transportation at public expense to Chanel Catholic High School. Complained the applicants: "80 percent of the tax money here goes to support the public schools. Aren't we supposed to get anything out of it?"

On the fifth try, bonds for a new elementary school were finally voted in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. It was charged that previous efforts had been defeated by the political activity of Father John B. Conroy of Sacred Heart Church. The school will be built on the Brown property—not on the Gould property which has already been purchased by the Sisters of Mercy.

A plea for fair play for public school children was made by an attorney for the Burnt Hills, Schenectady, N.Y., Board of Education in arguing an appeal from Commissioner
(Continued on page 7)

New Patron of Air Force

Apparently undiscouragable, the campaign to dedicate the armed services to Roman Catholic patron saints reared its head at Mitchell Air Force Base April 11. Checked by the U.S. Infantry at Ft. Benning and Ft. Leonard Wood (*Review*, June 1958 and March, 1959) the patron saint devotees are now attacking the Air Force. Special observances at the Mitchell Base featured the presence of political and ecclesiastical dignitaries and blessing of a new medal honoring Our Lady of Loretto as patroness of flight.

Present for the occasion were the commanding officer of the base, Col. Marshall A. Elkins and Congressmen Steven B. Derounian and Frank J. Becker. The blessing of the medal was given by the diocesan Bishop, Walter P. Kellenberg.

Confusion in the Ranks?

To the uninitiated, there seemed to be some confusion about the new program since previous reports had indicated that St. Joseph of Cupertino

had been adopted as patron saint of the American Air Force. A Franciscan mystic, St. Joseph was credited with supernatural flights through space long before the Wright brothers.

In a letter addressed to Secretary Douglass of the Air Force, C. Stanley Lowell of POAU inquired as to whether the exercises at Mitchell Base were "a religious service under the auspices of the Roman Catholic denomination, or an official program at the base." The letter added: "If it is the latter, we should like to protest the practice as in violation of the American principle of separation of church and state, according to which military discipline may not be employed to impose a religious faith upon individuals."

Unworried by any complications, Fr. Aloysius H. Gillick, pastor of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Hempstead, asserted that the first man to reach the moon ought to wear a Loretto medal. The commercial was not forgotten: copyrights on the medal have been assigned to the Knights of Columbus.

Town Bifurcates Schools

Housing of both public school and parochial school classes under the public school roof is the practice inaugurated in Holyoke, Mass. by Mayor Samuel Resnic. (See April *Review*) Concerned citizens protested that the action violates the Massachusetts constitution which forbids "use" of public money or property to "aid" any school "wherein any denominational doctrine is inculcated" or to aid any "Church, religious denomination or society."

The question was discussed by city officials as to whether a token rental should be charged the church for use of the public buildings.

Mayor Resnic termed the dollar-a-year rental "completely unnecessary." Later, however, the diocesan paper, *The Pilot*, stated haughtily: "There was never a moment when Catholic school officials either sought or accepted free use of public schools."

Now that token payments have been required, Catholic officials are taking the position that their use of the public schools for religious indoctrination is entirely legal. Msgr. Lally, editor of *The Pilot*, has written: "You will note that there is nothing in Article XLVI of the Constitution of this Commonwealth . . . which prevents the renting of school space to any private agency."

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Higher Salaries Debated

For Italian Priests

Italian priests may receive their first salary rise since July 1, 1956, if legislation sponsored by the ruling Christian Democratic (Roman Catholic) Party becomes law. The case for the priests, who have received stipends from the state since the Lateran Treaty, has been strongly presented. There have been no reports of a strike to enforce the demands for increased pay.

The last increase approved by the Italian government put into effect a sliding scale varying from \$350 to \$1800 a year. The payments are declared to be in "compensation" for the surrender of political control of the Papal states to the Italian government.

Another demand of the clergy for social security benefits will also be considered by the Deputies.

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Church-State Angle In South School Fight

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"We have not yet faced up to the question of educational justice in this country. . . . There has been little agitation on the part of religious leaders to obtain more than a few paltry tokens of tolerance.

"The massive secularist prejudice against according the religious school anything more than the bare right of existence has hardly been challenged; yet it is a fundamental injustice which imposes a double taxation upon conscientious parents. . . ."—Bishop Robert J. Dwyer of Reno, Nev.

In the continuing deadlock over proposed desegregation of schools, a number of Southern states were coming to grips with the church-state issue in regard to "tuition grants" for private schools. In Virginia (See *Review* April, 1959) and Florida it was the intention of the legislature to offer "freedom of choice" to parents who preferred private schools over desegregated public schools, or even to abandon public education in certain areas where the people preferred abandonment to racial integration.

The alternative to public education in such instances would be private education financed by "tuition grants" to parents. The \$64 question has become: "Will church schools be included in the 'tuition grant' program or not?"

Virginia has set her course positively to the "non-sectarian" course. Desiring to avoid the church-state controversy and a certain rash of lawsuits, the Commonwealth has refused to add the church-state complication to an already complicated problem. The private schools envisaged in the Perrow Plan as possible recipients of public aid are to be strictly non-sectarian.

Florida Uncertain

In Florida the legislation presented provides that public funds would not be paid as tuition in sectarian schools. But a determined effort was being made to strike out this proviso. The *Alabama Baptist* editorialized in March on the church-state issue and stated: "Tuition grants should never be made to those who attend sectarian schools in Alabama." The same issue will presently confront lawmakers in Georgia, South Carolina and Mississippi.

Father Paul Hallett, a Roman Catholic priest who often writes on education problems, has vigorously denounced the tuition grant program as a means of defeating integration. But apparently his opposition would not extend to refusing some of the grants if they could be obtained for parochial schools. On that point he writes: "Pupil subsidies would further educational freedom."

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CAPTIVE SCHOOLS



Carefully researched study of church-dominated "public schools," by C. Stanley Lowell.

Excerpt: "A recent survey has disclosed 2055 Roman Catholic nuns, brothers and priests teaching in the public schools of this country."

Order from POAU

5c each, 50c for 12,
\$3 for 100

NCEA Surveys Tax Funds

"There is no doubt that there is an indirect subsidy to Catholic education (in the National Defense Education Act)," admitted Thomas J. O'Toole, assistant dean of the Villanova (Pa.) University law school, at the recent 56th annual convention of the National Catholic Education Association in Atlantic City, N.J.

More than 10,000 teaching nuns, priests and brothers were present. Some apparently employed in public schools, but most came from parochial schools and Roman Catholic colleges throughout the country. Most of the speakers were bishops, archbishops, mother superiors, and Jesuits, Mr. O'Toole being one of the few lay educators.

"We should direct our efforts in getting our fair share of these subsidies," Mr. O'Toole continued. "These subsidies will increase."

"In States where Constitutions do not make this (Federal aid) feasible, the regulations provide that the U.S. Commissioner of Education can distribute the aid directly to the schools . . . Cooperate with other private schools, help get around Constitutional difficulties in some States. I am not suggesting anything Machiavellian . . ."

Another speaker, Dr. Urban H. Fleege, head of the Dept. of Education at De Paul U. (Chicago), referring to Roman Catholic colleges and universities, said:

"What about tax support [for them]? At least a generation away—let us hope it's not more than that!"

Law

(Continued from page 5)

Allen's ruling which ordered the board to provide buses for parochial school pupils outside the district. The attorney pointed out that such transportation (outside the district) cannot be provided for public school pupils but that the board is now being required to provide it for parochial school pupils.

* * *

A nativity scene postage stamp is called for in a bill (H.R. 6527) introduced by Rep. Mel Laird (R-Wis.). "I think such a stamp would do much

St. George's Methodist Church Bids for Federal Aid

to remind us of the spiritual significance of Christmas," the Congressman said.

* * *

Church bingo games were approved in Nebraska but defeated in Illinois when loud protests echoed all around the state. "Bingo has become a dirty word in Illinois," said bingo sponsor Rep. Murphy (R-Round Lake).

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Catholic Educator Warns Church

Father James P. Shannon, president of St. Thomas College, St. Paul, Minn., has warned Roman Catholics of the dangerous situation they themselves will face if the public school system is "seriously compromised or weakened." The Roman Catholic Church "would be one of the first institutions to feel the ill effects of this unfortunate decline," he said.

The widely-prevailing impression that Catholic citizens are uninterested in public schools and that they vote against bond issues for these institutions because of "double taxation" was denied by Fr. Shannon. In accepting appointment on the St. Paul "Citizens' Committee on Public Schools," Fr. Shannon said: "By far the greater number of American children are educated in public schools. If their instruction is poorly done or if they do not receive a solid education, they will be ignorant men and women unable to use wisely their political franchise. . . ."

A bill to appropriate \$25,000 to purchase and clear the land adjacent to St. George's Methodist Church in Philadelphia, has passed the House and is now before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

In testimony before a House committee, C. Stanley Lowell opposed the bill, H.R. 2154, and its Senate counterpart S.1402, on the ground that it appropriated public funds "for the purpose of enhancing a church and providing it with an advantageous setting."

Mr. Lowell praised the designation of suitable churches as national historic sites, but opposed any expenditure of public funds for churches that would continue to function as such. He pointed out that other churches in the general area such as Christ Church, Gloria Dei, and St. Joseph's had already entered the field for public funds.

"You are going to have a chain reaction of financial requests by churches under the blanket of historic sites and these will reach you from every part of the country," he told the legislators. Lowell disclosed that St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church was planning to seek a million and a half if St. George's were granted its \$25,000.

Conrad L. Wirth, director of the National Park Service, stated that St. Joseph's intended to withdraw its request for funds as a part of the park site because there was a "possibility" the church would be cared for under an "urban renewal" program.

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Priest Attacks Public Schools

On Devotional Program

Father Sebastian, a member of the Capuchin Order, whose devotional program on "Look To This Day" is a regular feature on WRC-TV Washington, D.C., under sponsorship of the Catholic Television Guild, used his time on April 14 for a scurrilous attack on the public schools. Father Sebastian affected an off-hand, off-the-cuff technique for his attack. He pretended to read a poem, then stopped midway and remarked that he didn't have enough time and would have to read that another day.

Atheist Value

"Since I have less than a minute," he said, "I guess I'll just give you this." He then proceeded to read a statement commenting on income tax payments since everybody was interested in them on April 14. The statement declared that income tax payments remind us of school tax payments. The only people who get their money's worth out of the school tax they pay are the atheists, the statement declared. Protestants, Catholics and Jews get nothing out of it since their religious beliefs are barred from the public school classroom. These schools are godless since they are required by law to be neutral on religion, and not even the name of God can be mentioned in them. Therefore it is true that only atheists get their money's worth out of the school tax."

Father Sebastian's political propaganda had a triple edge: (1) it attacked the public schools as godless, (2) it hinted that people were wasting their money paying taxes for public schools, and (3) it implied that public taxes ought to support the

parochial schools which have "God" in them.

Many persons have protested to WRC-TV against the political use of the devotional program by Father Sebastian and the Catholic Television Guild.

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"Fair Practices" Group Urged to Change Name

A change of name from the Fair Practices Commission to the Unfair Practices Commission, has been suggested by bitter critics of a Michigan group whose action in a municipal election has come under wide attack. The Berean Baptist Church of Grand Rapids issued to its congregation, just prior to the election, a statement calling attention to a Catholic on the ticket for every municipal office.

The statement reminded readers of the Roman Catholic policy of electioneering for its own members and suggested, though it did not say so, that Protestants ought to vote for Protestants.

Sectarian politicking in Michigan is apparently a luxury reserved for the Roman Catholic Church alone. For while this church was systematically touting Catholics on the ticket and urging votes for them as Catholics—a practice it pursues in many places—the modest effort at Berean Baptist Church promptly drew the pontifical rebuke of a group calling itself the Michigan Fair Practices Commission.

Protestants Are Fair Game

The Berean Baptists were accused of "bigoted attacks" and were strongly advised that they were un-

Bishop Herbert Welch

Dedicating a chapel at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D. C., April 16, 1959

"Methodists would always regard any organized attempt on the part of a religious body to control the State, either by legislation or group pressure, to be as reprehensible as an attempt by the State to control the Church."

American. While the communication tried to convey the impression that it represented the unanimous opinion of the commission, this was apparent misrepresentation. Local members of the commission said they had not been consulted and that, had they been consulted, they would not have approved.

Rev. Henry Kik, religious news commentator on WFUR, Grand Rapids, commented on the incident: "On my way to the radio station this Sunday morning I obtained a leaflet which was distributed at Sacred Heart Church (and I understand at all Roman Catholic Churches in this city) promoting a candidate because of his Roman Catholic loyalty. Has the Commission sent a telegram to this candidate and informed the press of their action? I think not! . . ."

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Church Takes Credit For U. S. Food Gifts

Paraguay and Uruguay are the latest countries to receive powdered milk, flour and corn meal under the Surplus Commodities program. The items will be distributed by the Roman Catholic Church through its Catholic Relief Services. There is no Protestant or Jewish distribution.

In Uruguayan newspapers the distribution is being billed as the personal gift of Cardinal Spellman. The same tactic is reportedly followed in Spain where the surplus distribution is presented to the public as Roman Catholic largesse without any mention of the American government.

Sectarian distribution under the surplus program is monopolized by Catholic Relief in Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Macau, Peru, Portugal, Spain, and nearly so in Chile.

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